

SECRET

only
arrived at Bucks Club at 2:00 o'clock to lunch with Walt Butterworth. This is the last time he will be in London before going home to ~~prepare for his mission~~ in Canada.

We had a discussion about the Common Market, as well as an interchange of views about what he might accomplish in Ottawa in trying to reconcile the present substantial differences between the Canadian and American Governments.

Paul Mellon came out to the house this evening. As I had previously known, he must withdraw his pictures on January 1st, as he is lending them, with many others, for exhibition in the United States. I do not at present know how, if at all, we can fill those gaps. It has been characteristically generous of him to have left them there as long as he has.

E arrived back this evening from Paris.

One thing to be said in favor of my long air delay this morning was the opportunity it gave me to finish some books I was in the course of reading. There was a good one on "The Scandalous Regent" by W. H. Lewis, the subject being Philippe d'Orleans, nephew of Louis XIV, who after his uncle's death took charge of France during the infancy of Louis XV. He was unfortunate in many respects, particularly in having been so dissipated. It was uncommon in France at that time, as it is today, for any one in his position to drink so copiously. Drinking and his other nocturnal activities finally ruined his health, and he died at the age of 49. Yet compared with his uncle, he was in many respects a wise ruler. His patronage of the law scheme, the Mississippi Bubble, caused great distress, but he left France stronger than had Louis XIV. His inability to say "No" was balanced to some extent by his marvelous tact. One of the greatest things he did, in my opinion, was to influence the transition in French decorative art from the comparatively heavy and gloomy products favored by the Sun King to the lighter and more graceful styles which finally flourished fully during the reign of Louis XV.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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